

MASS Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, March 18, 2018

6:00 pm

Helena Radisson Colonial Hotel

MINUTES

Present: Tobin Novasio (President Elect), Cal Ketchum (President-Elect), Laurie Barron (Past President), Heather Davis-Schmidt (North West), Nate Olson (Southeast), Teri Harris (South Central), Bart Hawkins (Hi-Line), Mike Perry (Western), Annette Hart (Central), Gregory Dern (Central), Loren Dunk (North Central), Rick Duncan (Federal Relations), Bart Hawkins (Hi-Line via UberConference), Kirk Miller (SAM Executive Director), Pat Audet (SAM Associate Director), Kim Scofield (SAM Communications Specialist), Gary Wagner (SAM Operations Manager)

Digital: Bart Hawkins (Hi-Line)

Guest: Gregory Dern (2018-19 Central MASS President)

Absent: Scott Chauvet (4 Rivers), Renee Rasmussen (Northeast)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Novasio at 6:03 pm.

Mega Issues: [School Safety](#), Superintendent/Board Relations & Governance

- **School Safety** - Kirk referenced the school safety resources posted on the SAM website and the OPI website. Kirk asked what more could we be doing to assist members on the issue of school safety? Heather Davis-Schmidt wondered if MASS is willing to make a public statement concerning firearms in schools. Kirk stated that this becomes an advocacy issue and therefore a Delegate Assembly issue. Kirk referred to MT Code 45-8-361(b) that states the trustees of a district may grant persons and entities advance permission to possess, carry, or store a weapon in a school building. He suggested that positions that are written should refer to this Code. He also stated that SAM does have a position concerning safe, respectful, drug free and healthy schools. Cal Ketchum asked about surveying superintendents to find out how they feel about firearms in schools. Laurie suggested looking at each of the affiliate's national organization and including a statement of what each organization states about arming school staff and including it in a survey. Greg suggested that qualitative data be gathered in the survey, not just yes or no answers. SAM will create a draft survey to send to the board for review before it is sent to the MASS membership. Kirk will work with Tobin and Rick to put the survey together. The MASS Community Forum will be used to get the survey out to the membership. Once the survey results are compiled, a position or resolution can be drafted. Rick reminded that the deadline is April 27th to submit positions and

resolutions. Kirk asked that the directors inform members at regional meetings that the survey will be coming out.

- **Superintendent, Board, and Governance** - Kirk described a governance training proposal that the MT-PEC partners are considering. It would include a curriculum developed around the governance training of 6 member teams from approximately 25 districts: a board member, a superintendent, a principal, a lead teacher, a district clerk, and a classroom teacher. This governance training would include assistance with policy, recruitment and retention, education, and procedures that fit current laws and policies. The governance training could be operational for the 18-19 school year. Rick mentioned that there are currently 28 superintendent openings across the state. Rick would like to know data about the 19 out of the 28 that resigned their position such as, were they part of SAM LPLP, why are they leaving the district, how many years were they in the district? Tobin suggested tapping into the national statistics and how the instability affects student learning. Kirk asked if SAM should move forward with MT-PEC on this governance program idea? He also mentioned that a survey will be sent from REL NW concerning recruitment and retention issues. Results will be compared to the Zogby study. He asked that directors inform their region members to have their district employees complete the survey. Kirk confirmed that all survey data will be anonymous.

Additions

to Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes: **Rick Duncan moved to approve the 9/17/17 minutes;**
Teri Harris seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- MASS Financial Report 2017-18 - Discussion
- Web Accessibility and [ADA Web Compliance Resources and Training](#) - Discussion
Kirk referred to the META Website Accessibility Project Overview webpage on the SAM website. He asked that all directors inform members in their regions about this project.
- SAM Resources for MASS Members and Regions - Discussion
Kirk referred the board to MASS Community Forum and the MASS Member Benefits webpage and asked that directors share this information in their regions. Tobin asked the directors to invite new members to region meetings
- MASS Board Leadership Web Meetings in the Future - Discussion
Board members agreed that these monthly meetings are beneficial. They will be held the third Tuesday of the month (Sept - May) at 9:00 a.m. Meetings will take place on April 17th and May 15th for the remainder of this school year. Kirk stated that meetings will be recorded and posted on the MASS Board Meetings webpage.

New Business:

- [MASS and AASA Membership Dues 2018-19](#) – Action
Kirk referred to the MASS/AASA Dues Structure and Considerations for 2018-19 and discussed the five options for MASS/AASA membership. Pat defined Aspiring as those members that are pursuing a superintendent endorsement. Kirk's recommendation was that dues go up by the suggested AASA amounts with Aspiring being AASA/MASS Aspiring.
Mike Perry moved to increase the MASS dues to reflect the AASA increase and requiring aspiring members to opt out of AASA; Nate Olson seconded the motion.
Discussion: Laurie does not want to take away from our principal organizations' membership. Kirk stated that the benefit that comes from AASA is much different as far as legal benefits.
After discussion, Mike amended the motion to increase the MASS dues to reflect the AASA increase for each membership category and require all membership types to opt out of AASA; Nate confirmed. Motion passed unanimously.
- Consideration of [MASS Budget 2018-19](#) – Action
Loren Dunk moved to accept budget; Annette Hart seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.
- [SAM LPLP 2018-19 \(AASA National Aspiring Superintendents Program\)](#) – Discussion
Kirk referenced the SAM LPLP 2018-19 marketing materials. Kirk asked that directors add this to their regional agendas. He gave an overview of the AASA National Aspiring Superintendents Program stating that being part of this program would normally cost \$6000, however SAM will be able to incorporate this CLN into SAM LPLP for \$500/participant. Tobin asked if this program would be available to new (first or second year) superintendents. Kirk confirmed.
- [SAM Administrators Institute 2018](#) – Discussion
Kirk referenced the SAM Administrators Institute webpage. Rick asked if the speakers are in-kind. Kirk confirmed that all four national speakers are in-kind donations.
- [MCEL 2018](#) – Discussion
Kirk mentioned that MCEL 2018 will be in Missoula at the Hilton Garden Inn. No exhibitors will be present, but the revenue will be replaced with having five platinum sponsors. Laurie asked what the breakdown is for the exhibitors here at MASS/METAtechED? Gary stated that approximately 33 are META exhibitors and seven are MASS exhibitors. Laurie suggested that this breakdown be looked at differently next year, possibly splitting the revenue in half. Gary gave the

background about the META speaker sponsors that pay \$1500 to speak at the conference. This will be a consideration by the organizers of the MASS and METAtchED conferences for 2019.

- Future Funding – Crowdfunding ([AASA recommendation of DonorsChoose.org](#)) and national push for private funds supporting public education – Discussion
Kirk stated that this topic is to make board members aware that this is on the national agenda and it will most likely affect our school leaders. Currently, this is teacher coordinated and school leaders may not realize what is coming in to their district. Also, some districts will receive more than others. Another concern could be that the source of the donation may be unknown. Laurie stated that Evergreen created a policy that any fundraising tied to the school must have district approval. Kirk stated that MTSBA has a sample policy that could be used as a reference for creating policy.
- [MREA/MCS Partnership for Support of SAM LPLP](#) – Discussion
Kirk referenced the suggested partnership. MREA/MCS reception costs would be deducted from the contribution. Tobin stated that the tool that is promoted through MCS is a good tool. Kirk stated the SAM board will take action on this item at their April 6, 2018 meeting.

President's Report – Tobin Novasio

- a. [MASS Spring Conference](#) and [Business Meeting Agenda](#)
- b. [AASA National Conference on Education](#)
Sixteen Montana superintendents attended the conference.
- c. [Membership](#)
Tobin stated that MASS membership has increased this year.
- d. [MASS Strategic Plan](#) Update
Tobin suggested that this be coordinated into the monthly leadership meeting. Kirk confirmed that we will find another way to complete the planned activity to scan the horizon and then help create the goals and strategic plan. Tobin wanted to get the process started with the current board.
- e. Updates

President-Elect Report – Cal Ketchum

- a. [AASA NCE](#) Incentive Award Reports
Cal stated that Tiffani Anderson and Thom Peck will give an NCE report during the business meeting.
- b. MASS Retiree Recognition Celebration
He mentioned that nine superintendents will be retiring this year.
- c. MASS Years of Service Pins
Approximately 30 years of service pins will be awarded during the conference.
- d. MASS President-Elect Election and Region Presidents Election

- Mike Perry is the President-Elect candidate.
- e. MASS Fall Conference 2018
Fall conference planning will begin soon and will once again be combined with MCASE.

Regional President's Reports – Regional Presidents

Western Region: Mike stated that the region is looking for a place that is large enough to hold their meetings and would serve lunch. He stated that the Missoula Country Club has volunteered but they need a member to sponsor them. Heather stated that she is a member and will sponsor the group. Mike stated that Scott Kinney and his secretary presented at the last region meeting about the great backpack program that is much more than pantry items. A binder of information is available. They also have the data to show how much it is benefiting their students.

Northwest Region: Heather stated that they have had some great presentations at the meetings. They have focused on school safety and opportunities for districts to complete active shooter training.

Northcentral Region: Loren stated that Dick Trerise from OPI visits the region often. Several superintendent openings are available in the region.

Southeast Region: Nate stated that January and February meetings were cancelled in the region due to weather. Snow days have been an issue along with filling teaching vacancies.

Northeast Region: Renee was not at the meeting to report.

Hi Line Region: Bart reported that many days have been lost as snow days in the region. Recently MSU practicum students were hosted in several rural schools in the region, hoping to help with teacher shortages in rural Montana.

4 Rivers Region: Scott was not at the meeting to report.

Southeast Region: Teri reported that the last meeting was spent discussing and planning for student walkouts. Also, they have tried to have legislators from both parties present at meetings.

Central Region: Annette recognized Gregory Dern as the new president for the region. She stated that the International Bus lawsuit came out of Central meetings. Anyone interested in being part of the lawsuit should contact Tim Dolphay. Greg stated that he has been working on subject specific best practices in order to have greater job satisfaction for staff and an increase in student achievement.

SAM [Delegate Assembly](#) Report – Rick Duncan, DA Steering Committee Chair

Rick stated the Delegate Assembly will take place June 14-15. MASS has ten delegates. He reminded the board that delegates are regional representatives, representing all class sizes within a region. All positions and resolutions are due by April 27. There are currently 39 positions and 42 resolutions.

10. [Federal](#) Relations Report – *Rick Duncan*

Rick stated that federal relations priorities are based on delegate assembly designations. Senator Tester is cosponsoring a bill to hopefully get IDEA funding up to 40% - which is full funding. Mental health issues, Carl Perkins money, E-Rate, REAP funding, wireless availability in rural areas, and school safety issues are all current federal issues.

11. [Executive Director's Report](#) – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk reminded board members about the REL NW Survey.

12. What's on Your Mind...

**Laurie Barron moved to adjourn the meeting; Heather Davis-Schmidt seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Scofield
SAM Communications Specialist